

# **The Average Mass Of A Man Is 84kg And Of A Woman Is 70kg. A Lift Can Safely Carry 720kg. Work Out The**

## **Introduction**

**The average mass of a man is 84kg and of a woman is 70kg. A lift can safely carry 720kg.** **Work out the** problem involves understanding how to use these averages and the lift's capacity to determine various scenarios. This article will explore the concepts of average mass, capacity calculations, and how to apply these in real-world elevator safety assessments. We will also discuss related topics such as maximum load limits, the implications of adding passengers, and simple mathematical methods to solve similar problems.

## **Understanding the Problem and Key Concepts**

### **What is the significance of the average masses?**

The average masses given—84kg for men and 70kg for women—are typical values used in safety calculations and planning. These averages help determine the expected weight of different numbers of passengers that an elevator might carry.

### **Capacity of the lift**

The lift's maximum safe load is 720kg. This means that the total combined weight of all passengers should not exceed this figure to ensure safety and prevent mechanical failure.

### **Goals of the calculation**

The primary goal is to determine how many men, women, or a mix of both can safely ride the lift simultaneously without exceeding the 720kg limit. This involves:

- Calculating maximum number of men or women separately
- Determining combinations of men and women that stay within the limit
- Understanding the average scenario and the maximum possible load

# Calculating Maximum Number of Men or Women Separately

## Maximum number of men

Since each man weighs approximately 84kg, the maximum number of men the lift can carry is calculated by dividing the total capacity by the average weight of a man:

$$\text{Number of men} = 720\text{kg} \div 84\text{kg} \approx 8.57$$

Since we cannot carry a fraction of a person, the maximum number of men is:

$$\text{Max men} = 8$$

## Maximum number of women

Similarly, for women weighing 70kg each:

$$\text{Number of women} = 720\text{kg} \div 70\text{kg} \approx 10.28$$

So, the maximum number of women is:

$$\text{Max women} = 10$$

# Practical Implications and Real-World Scenarios

## Mixed groups of men and women

In most cases, passengers will be a mixture of men and women. To determine possible combinations, we need to analyze how different group compositions affect the total weight.

## Calculating feasible combinations

Suppose we want to find out how many men and women can ride together without exceeding 720kg. Let:

- $m$  = number of men
- $w$  = number of women

The total weight constraint is expressed as:

$$84m + 70w \leq 720$$

## Sample calculations for combinations

1. Maximize the number of men, then fill remaining capacity with women:
2. Maximize the number of women, then add men:
3. Find combinations for specific numbers, e.g., 3 men and some women:

## Finding All Possible Combinations

### Using inequalities to find integer solutions

The key is solving for integer values of  $m$  and  $w$  that satisfy:

$$84m + 70w \leq 720$$

### Method 1: Fixing one variable

- Set  $m$  to a specific value, then solve for  $w$ :

$$\begin{aligned} 70w &\leq 720 - 84m \\ w &\leq (720 - 84m) \div 70 \end{aligned}$$

Since  $w$  must be an integer  $\geq 0$ , for each  $m$ , calculate the maximum  $w$ .

### Example calculations

- For  $m=0$ :

$$w \leq 720 \div 70 \approx 10.28 \rightarrow w=10$$

- For  $m=1$ :

$$w \leq (720 - 84) \div 70 = (636) \div 70 \approx 9.08 \rightarrow w=9$$

- For  $(m=2)$ :

$$w \leq (720 - 168) \div 70 = (552) \div 70 \approx 7.88 \rightarrow w=7$$

## Summary of feasible combinations

By iterating  $(m)$  from 0 up to the maximum possible (which is when the weight of men alone reaches or is below 720kg), we can list all possible pairs of  $((m,w))$  that satisfy the inequality.

## Graphical Representation of Combinations

### Plotting the feasible region

To better understand the combinations, plot the inequality on a graph with axes  $(m)$  (men) and  $(w)$  (women). The line:

$$84m + 70w = 720$$

divides the plane into feasible and infeasible regions. The solutions lie on or below this line, with integer points representing valid passenger groups.

## Additional Considerations for Safety and Comfort

### Average weight variations

- Individual weights may differ from the averages, so safety margins are considered.
- Actual maximum capacity might be slightly less to account for variations.

### Number of passengers vs. total weight

- While the weight limit is crucial, the number of passengers also affects comfort and safety.
- It's common to specify both maximum weight and maximum number of passengers.

## Conclusion

In summary, given the average masses of men and women, and the lift's capacity of 720kg, we can determine the maximum number of passengers and their combinations that can safely ride together. The key calculations involve dividing the total capacity by individual weights to find maximum counts, and solving inequalities to find possible mixes. This analysis not only aids in safety assessments but also illustrates the practical application of algebra and inequalities in everyday scenarios. Ensuring safety in lift operation requires understanding these principles and applying them diligently to prevent overloading and potential hazards.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What is the combined average mass of a man and a woman?**

The combined average mass is  $84 \text{ kg} + 70 \text{ kg} = 154 \text{ kg}$ .

### **If a lift can safely carry 720 kg, how many men of average weight can it hold?**

Number of men =  $720 \text{ kg} \div 84 \text{ kg} \approx 8.57$ , so it can carry up to 8 men safely.

### **How many women of average weight can the lift carry safely?**

Number of women =  $720 \text{ kg} \div 70 \text{ kg} \approx 10.29$ , so it can carry up to 10 women safely.

### **What is the maximum number of men and women combined that the lift can carry without exceeding its limit?**

Possible combination: 8 men ( $8 \times 84 = 672 \text{ kg}$ ) and 1 woman (70 kg), total 742 kg, which exceeds the limit. So, the maximum is 8 men and 0 women or fewer; for mixed weights, the exact maximum should be calculated case by case.

### **Can the lift safely carry 5 men and 3 women simultaneously?**

Total weight =  $(5 \times 84) + (3 \times 70) = 420 + 210 = 630 \text{ kg}$ , which is within the 720 kg limit, so yes.

### **What is the average weight of a person if the lift is carrying 6 men and 4 women?**

Total weight =  $(6 \times 84) + (4 \times 70) = 504 + 280 = 784 \text{ kg}$ . Average weight =  $784 \text{ kg} \div 10 \text{ persons} = 78.4 \text{ kg}$ .

### **If the lift is fully loaded with 8 men and 3 women, does it stay**

## **within the safe limit?**

Total weight =  $(8 \times 84) + (3 \times 70) = 672 + 210 = 882$  kg, which exceeds the 720 kg limit, so it is not safe.

## **Additional Resources**

The Average Mass Of A Man Is 84kg And Of A Woman Is 70kg. A Lift Can Safely Carry 720kg. Work Out The

Understanding the capabilities and limitations of mechanical systems such as lifts (elevators) is crucial for ensuring safety, efficiency, and optimal operation. In this context, analyzing the average mass of individuals and how it relates to the maximum load capacity of a lift provides valuable insights into safety protocols, capacity planning, and the engineering considerations behind elevator design. This article delves into the calculations, assumptions, and practical implications associated with these parameters, offering a comprehensive review suitable for engineers, safety officials, and the general public interested in mechanics and safety standards.

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## **Introduction: The Significance of Load Capacity in Elevator Safety**

Elevators are essential components of modern infrastructure, facilitating vertical transportation in residential buildings, commercial complexes, hospitals, and more. Their safety and reliability depend heavily on understanding and respecting their load capacities. Overloading an elevator can lead to mechanical failures, safety hazards, and costly repairs, while under-utilization might not be as impactful but could reflect inefficiency.

In this analysis, we focus on a lift with a maximum safe load of 720kg. By examining average body weights—84kg for men and 70kg for women—we aim to determine how many individuals of each gender can be safely transported simultaneously. This calculation not only informs capacity planning but also underscores the importance of considering peak loads, mixed passenger groups, and additional factors such as luggage or equipment.

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## **Understanding the Average Mass of Men and Women**

### **Statistical Foundations of Average Body Mass**

The figures cited—84kg for men and 70kg for women—are generally derived from population

studies, health surveys, and anthropometric data collected over years. These averages serve as useful benchmarks for engineering calculations and safety assessments.

However, it's important to recognize that these averages are influenced by geographic, demographic, and socioeconomic factors. For instance, average body mass can vary significantly across different countries, age groups, and lifestyles. For the purposes of engineering calculations, these averages provide a simplified but effective model to estimate typical load scenarios.

## Implications of Using Averages in Load Calculations

Using average body weights simplifies the process of estimating typical passenger loads but also introduces some limitations:

- Variability: Actual passenger weights can be higher or lower than the averages, affecting safety margins.
- Peak Loads: During busy hours, the number of passengers often exceeds the average, necessitating safety buffers.
- Mixed Groups: Elevators often carry groups of men and women together, requiring weighted considerations.

Despite these limitations, averages are practical for initial capacity planning, safety regulations, and engineering standards.

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## Calculating the Number of Passengers the Lift Can Safely Carry

### Basic Calculation Framework

Given:

- Maximum load capacity of the lift: 720kg
- Average male mass: 84kg
- Average female mass: 70kg

The fundamental question is: How many men or women can the lift carry without exceeding its capacity?

For Men:

Number of men = Total lift capacity / Average male weight  
Number of men =  $720\text{kg} / 84\text{kg} \approx 8.57$

Since we cannot carry a fraction of a person, the maximum number is 8 men.

For Women:

Number of women =  $720\text{kg} / 70\text{kg} \approx 10.28$

Thus, the lift can carry up to 10 women safely.

Mixed Groups:

In real scenarios, passengers are often of mixed genders and weights. To estimate the capacity for such groups, a weighted approach is necessary, which considers the proportion of men and women, or an average passenger weight based on demographic data.

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## Considering Safety Margins and Real-World Applications

While the calculations above give a theoretical maximum, safety standards typically incorporate safety margins to account for:

- Weight Variability: Passengers may be heavier than the average.
- Additional Loads: Luggage, packages, or mobility aids.
- Dynamic Factors: Sudden movements, acceleration, or deceleration.

As a rule of thumb, safety margins can range from 10% to 20%. Applying a 10% margin:

Adjusted load capacity =  $720\text{kg} \times 0.9 = 648\text{kg}$

Under this adjusted capacity:

- Men:  $648\text{kg} / 84\text{kg} \approx 7.7 \rightarrow 7$  men
- Women:  $648\text{kg} / 70\text{kg} \approx 9.25 \rightarrow 9$  women

This conservative approach ensures safety even when actual weights exceed averages or additional loads are present.

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## Engineering and Design Considerations

### Designing Elevators for Specific Capacity Ranges

Elevator capacity is not solely determined by average passenger weight but also by:

- Peak Traffic Loads: How many people are likely to use the elevator simultaneously during busy periods.
- Building Usage: Residential, commercial, or industrial buildings have different load expectations.
- Safety Regulations: Local codes and standards often specify minimum safety margins.

Engineers must incorporate these factors when designing or upgrading lifts, ensuring they can handle expected loads with appropriate safety buffers.

## **Material and Mechanical Constraints**

The lift's mechanical components—cables, motors, pulleys, and safety brakes—must be rated for at least the maximum intended load, with additional capacity for safety margins. For example:

- Cables: Must have a rated load exceeding the maximum load, factoring in dynamic forces.
- Motors: Should be capable of handling the starting and stopping loads efficiently.
- Safety Devices: Limit switches and brakes must activate reliably before overload conditions cause damage.

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## **Practical Applications and Safety Protocols**

### **Passenger Capacity Labels and Safety Instructions**

Most elevators display capacity labels indicating the maximum number of persons or weight limit. These are based on calculations similar to those above, with added safety margins. It is crucial for users to adhere to these limits to prevent accidents.

Examples:

- An elevator labeled "Maximum 8 persons or 720kg" aligns with the calculations for an average of 84kg per person.
- In crowded situations, the actual number might be fewer, especially if passengers are larger or carrying luggage.

### **Managing Mixed Loads and Peak Times**

Building managers and safety personnel should:

- Monitor peak usage times to prevent overloading.
- Educate users on the importance of respecting capacity limits.
- Consider installing load sensors that alert operators or prevent movement if overloaded.

Special considerations include:

- Carrying children or infants, which might lower the average weight.
- Including mobility aids, wheelchairs, or heavy luggage in calculations.
- Planning for emergency evacuations where load limits are critical.

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## **Conclusion: The Interplay of Mathematics, Engineering, and Safety**

The calculation of how many individuals a lift can safely carry based on average weights is a fundamental aspect of engineering, safety management, and operational planning. Using the given data—average masses of 84kg for men and 70kg for women—and a safe load capacity of 720kg, we find that:

- Approximately 8 men can be transported at once.
- Approximately 10 women can be transported at once.
- Considering safety margins, these numbers decrease slightly, emphasizing conservative planning.

This analysis underscores the importance of understanding population data, engineering specifications, and safety protocols in designing and operating elevator systems. It also highlights the need for ongoing monitoring and adherence to safety standards to prevent accidents and ensure reliable service.

In a broader context, such calculations exemplify how simple mathematical principles underpin complex engineering systems that millions of people rely on daily. As urban development continues and building capacities increase, the importance of accurate, safety-conscious capacity planning becomes even more vital, ensuring that technological progress remains aligned with safety and efficiency.

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By understanding the theoretical and practical aspects of load capacities and average weights, stakeholders can make informed decisions that prioritize safety without compromising operational effectiveness.

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